ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR POLICY-BASED PACKET CLASSIFICATION

A method, apparatus, and computer implemented

5   instructions for processing a request in a data

processing system. The request is received. In response

to a first hash value being present within the request,

the first hash value is compared to a second hash value

that was computed locally, wherein the second hash value

10   represents a current policy configuration for assigning a

quality of service. In response to a match between the

first hash value and the second hash value, other

information in the request is used to establish a quality

of service for packets associated with the request.